

NOTICE

U.S. Department of Energy Seeks Public Comment on Second Draft of Key Environmental Management Documents

The U.S. Department of Energy has completed its second draft of the Risk-Based End State (RBES) Vision documents for Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL), the Livermore Site and Site 300. Both documents incorporate comments received from DOE-Headquarters (DOE-HQ) staff, as well as from regulatory agencies, local governments, and the community. The documents also reflect clarification guidance distributed by DOE-HQ in December 2003.

Please note that the RBES Vision is not a decision document. If DOE ultimately decides to seek changes to the current compliance agreements, decisions, or statutory/regulatory requirements, those changes will be made in accordance with applicable requirements and procedures.

There are no current significant risks to offsite receptors, and none are anticipated under the Risk-Based End State. One variance has been identified pertaining to implementation of a Risk-Based End State at each site. The variance is described in Attachment A of each Risk-Based End State Vision document. None of the variances increase risks to offsite human and ecological health.

The only significant strategic difference between the Current Cleanup Baseline End State and the Risk-Based End State is the point of compliance for contaminated ground water. The two end states are identical in terms of exposure of offsite receptors to contaminants, and address risk to these receptors equivalently. However, onsite cleanup of ground water under the Current Cleanup Baseline End State is intended to restore and protect ground water as a potential future resource, rather than to specifically mitigate risk. The Risk-Based End State presents a scenario based only on risk, but does not remediate onsite ground water to levels protective of ground water as a potential future resource.

The draft Risk-Based End State Vision documents for the Livermore Site and Site 300 are now available at the LLNL Environmental Repository in the LLNL Visitors Center in Livermore, the Livermore Public Library and the Tracy Public Library. They are also available online at <http://www-envirinfo.llnl.gov>.

The Department of Energy will consider concerns you may have regarding the Risk-Based End State Vision documents prior to finalizing the document in March 2004. Please send your comments by February 27, 2004 to: Phil Wong, Livermore Site Office - Environmental Stewardship Division, P.O. Box 808 L574, Livermore, CA 94550 or phil.wong@oak.doe.gov (925) 422-0765.

Your comments on the LLNL environmental community relations program are always appreciated. Please let us know if our efforts - such as these Public Notices and our web site - are helpful to you. We are very interested in how we can improve our program. All suggestions will be carefully considered.

COVER LETTER**Subject: Draft Risk-Based End State Vision Documents for Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory**

Dear Stakeholders and Community Members:

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Sincerely,

Phil Wong
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Livermore Site Office
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